LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR, 1903.

CONTENTS :

I. Population, Births and Deaths, 1903.

II. Summary of Sickness and Mortality during the year from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and from certain other diseases to which the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, applies, and of the Action taken for preventing their spread.

III. Summary of Other Proceedings taken, during the year, under the Sanitary Acts, &c.

IV. The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.

V. Appendix, containing certain Tables.

Prepared in accordance with Sec. 14 of the order of the Local Government Board, dated 23rd March, 1891, Regulating the Duties of Medical Officers of Health.

Leatherhead :

Printed by W. Kirkland, Bookseller and Stationer, North Street.

LEATHERHEAD URBAN DISTRICT.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health, for the Year 1903.

I.—Population, Births, and Deaths, 1903.

1. Population.—The Population of the district in the middle of the year under review may be estimated at 4800, assuming that it has increased at the same rate since the Census 1901 as it did in the preceding decade.

2. Births.—The number of Births registered in the district during the year was 107, representing a *Birth-rate* of 22·3 per 1000 of the estimated population; this rate is the same as the average rate for the previous ten years.

3. Deaths.—The number of Deaths registered in the district during the year was 36, to which must be added 4 deaths in the Epsom Infirmary of persons belonging to the district. This gives a total of 40 deaths, which represent an *Annual Death-rate* of 8·3 per 1000 of the estimated population, as against an average rate of 13·1 for the previous ten years.

4. Infant Mortality.—The deaths, during the year, of *Infants under one year*, were 6 in number, and were at the rate of 56 per 1000 births registered, as against an average rate of 135 for the previous ten years.

5. The deaths from Pulmonary Consumption were 2 in number, and were at the rate of 0·4 per 1000 of the population, which is below the previous average rate.

6. Influenza caused one death.

7. The Zymotic Death-rate was 0·63 per 1000 of the population.

II.—Summary of Sickness and Mortality, during the year, from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and from certain other diseases, which have to be notified under the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, and of the Action taken for preventing their spread.

1.—Small Pox. No case of this disease was reported.

Twenty-six cases of Chicken Pox were reported during the first two months of the year, during which this disease continued to be notifiable.

2.—Scarlet Fever.—Seven cases only of this disease were notified in six houses, and five of the patients were removed to the Isolation Hospital.

3.—Diphtheria. No case was notified.

4.—Enteric Fever. No case was notified.

5.—Measles caused one death, in September.

6.—Whooping Cough caused one death, in May.

7.—Diarrhœa caused one death in November.

No case of Puerperal Fever, Continued Fever, or Membranous Croup, was notified.

Of Erysipelas, one case was notified.

Consumption.—The Council undertakes the fumigation of rooms after they have been occupied by persons suffering from Phthisis, but no application for disinfection was received during the year.

Bacteriological Examinations.—Examinations were made at the Lister Institute, at the expense of the Council, of two specimens of sputum of patients suspected to be suffering from Phthisis, with positive result in one case.

III.—Summary of other Proceedings, which were taken during the year, under the Public Health Acts, &c.

1. Water Supply.—In order to obtain water for flushing the water-closets, on the connection of the drains with the new sewers, the owners of cottages had to take a supply from the mains of the Company, and, during the year, the Company's water was laid on to 77 houses which had previously been dependent on private wells for their domestic supply.

2. Drainage and Nuisances.—The Sanitary Inspector's report as to nuisances will be found on page 6. As in the previous year the sanitary condition of a large number of cottages was greatly improved by the substitution of water closets for tub closets, and the connection of the drains with the sewerage system. In all cases flushing apparatus was provided, the drains were ventilated and intercepted from the sewers by a trap, and in a large majority of the 524 premises which were connected with the sewers during the year, new drains were constructed or the old drains were relaid. In every case the water test was applied to the drains and the levels were taken, when the connection with the sewers was made.

I inspected several groups of cottages with the Inspector, and I made representations to the Council that seven cottages were unfit for human habitation. One of these cottages was repaired throughout, and was subsequently taken by the Council for the occupation of the foreman at the Sewage Farm. Two other cottages were repaired, redrained, and connected with the sewer, but the Council had not decided upon further action with regard to the other four cottages before the end of the year.

Complaints were received from time to time of the smells arising from the sewer ventilators in the roads, and in several cases these ventilators were closed and ventilating shafts were substituted.

Bye-laws for the drainage of existing buildings were adopted by the Council and received the sanction of the Local Government Board during the year.

3. New Buildings.—The Surveyor informs me that the number of plans for new buildings and for additions to buildings that were submitted for approval under the Byelaws were 53. The numbers in each year from 1895 to 1902 were 17, 23, 30, 45, 44, 25 and 24 respectively.

4. Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.—These premises were inspected, and in two instances badly constructed sheds, upon which I had reported in 1901, were abandoned.

5. Lodging House.—The Registered Common Lodging House was kept in compliance with the Byelaws.

6. The Slaughter Houses were inspected regularly.

7. Scavenging.—The District Council continued to remove the House-refuse from private houses and to collect and cleanse the Tub Closets. The Council gave notice that the general collection of Tub Closets would be discontinued in August, and at the end of the year they were distributing only 62 of the 600 tubs which were in use before the completion of the sewers.

8. Works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—The treatment of the sewage at the outfall works by sedimentation in an open tank, by "double contact" in coarse and fine beds, and finally by land treatment, produced a satisfactory effluent at all times throughout the year.

New sewers were constructed during the year in Garlands Road, Linden Gardens, Linden Road, Booth's Yards, Brick Bat Alley, School Alley, Oak Road and Fairs Road.

IV.—Factories and Workshops.

Early in the year I made an inspection in order to ascertain what additional premises ought to be placed upon the Register of Workshops, noting at the same time the sanitary conditions; and later I re-inspected all the Workshops.

The number of persons employed was very small in the majority of the workshops, and in only two instances did I find more than ten employees. The action taken to get remedied the defects that were discovered is given under the following headings:—

(a) Cleanliness. Five workshops which I found to be in a dirty condition were cleansed by the owners at my request.

(b) Air-space.—Each workroom was measured, and the cubic capacity and the number of persons who might be employed were recorded upon the exhibited notices. In two workshops in which the legal number was found to be exceeded, the overcrowding was abated.

(c) Ventilation.—Ventilation was found to be satisfactory, except in one workshop, for which the owner was called upon to provide efficient ventilation.

(d) Drainage of Floors.—No occasion arose for taking action.

(e) Sanitary Conveniences.—New water closets were provided, and the drains were relaid and connected with the sewers in seven cases.

Bakehouses.—There are six registered bakehouses, all of which are above ground and comply with the special sanitary regulations. Two of the bakehouses were cleansed after notice to the occupiers.

Home Work.—In only one case was a home-worker found to be employed. The cottage in which he lived was repaired and the drains were connected with the sewers.

Registers.—The Register was revised and 24 additions were made to it. By the end of the year 32 workshops had been registered.

Notices.—I gave notice to H.M. Inspector of Factories of three workshops, in which I found women or young persons to be employed where no abstract of the Act was exhibited.

J. WILLIAMSON, M.D.

Homeleigh,
Heathcote Road,
Epsom.
January, 1904

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

For the Year ending December 31st, 1903.

Number of Complaints received in writing	5
Number of Premises at which Nuisances were discovered	120
Number of Nuisances remedied without being reported	16
Number of Nuisances reported to the Sanitary Authority	85
Number of Nuisances remedied after report	61
Number of Notices (Statutory or Preliminary) served for the abatement of Nuisances ...	26

Particulars of Work done by Owners or Occupiers, for the Abatement of Nuisances.

Number of privies, cesspools, ditches, pools, watercourses, urinals, ashpits, and drains, *cleansed*, and number of deposits *removed*	15
Number of old privies re-constructed, as water-closets	—
Number of old privies, re-constructed, with small watertight vaults or with pails	—
Number of Premises at which the drains were re-constructed, ventilated, trapped or disconnected from the house-pipes or rain-water pipes	324
Number of Premises at which new drains or cesspools were provided under Sec. 23 or Sec. 94 ...	—
Number of Premises at which animals, improperly kept, were removed, or nuisance abated ...	3
Number of Houses which were provided with efficient ventilation	—
Number of Houses at which injurious overcrowding was abated	1
Number of damp, unwholesome Houses which were repaired	—
Number of filthy Houses which were cleansed and limewashed	—
Legal proceedings taken, under Sec. 96, for abatement of nuisances (number of times) ...	—
Houses closed after Notice, as unfit for human habitation under Section 97	—
Number of Bakehouses limewashed after inspection	3

Number of Samples of Water sent to the Medical Officer of Health for Analysis	—
Number of Wells permanently or temporarily closed after notice, under Section 70 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as unfit for drinking or domestic purposes	—
Number of Houses to which water was supplied by owners of premises after notice under Section 62 of that Act	—
Number of Houses (old) connected with water mains	77

T. SALKIELD.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of the Whole District during 1903, and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents register'd in District.	Deaths of Resid'nts register'd beyond District.	Deaths at all ages. Nett.	
				Under 1 year.		At all ages.						
		Number.	Rate. *	Number.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate. *				Number.	Rate. *
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1893	4390	107	24·4	18	168	50	11·4			4	54	12·3
1894	4430	95	21·4	18	190	55	12·4			2	57	12·8
1895	4470	104	23·3	7	67	47	10·5			4	51	11·4
1896	4510	81	18·0	12	148	43	9·5			6	49	10·9
1897	4550	101	22·2	9	89	41	9·0			10	51	11·2
1898	4590	101	22·0	18	178	59	12·8			2	61	13·2
1899	4630	116	25·0	21	181	61	13·2			10	71	15·3
1900	4670	103	22·0	11	107	60	12·8	1		13	73	15·6
1901	4710	94	20·0	8	85	61	13·0	1		9	70	14·9
1902	4750	119	25·0	16	134	54	11·4			10	64	13·5
Averages for years 1893-1902.	4570	102	22·3	14	135	53	11·6			7	60	13·1
1903.	4800	107	22·3	6	56	36	7·5			4	40	8·3

* Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

NOTE.—The deaths included in Column 7 of the table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district. The deaths included in column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10, and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The two deaths in a public Institution in the District in 1900 and 1901 occurred at the old Cottage Hospital.

Public Institutions outside the District, into which Leatherhead Residents are received, are the Epsom Workhouse, the Cuddington Joint Isolation Hospital and the Brookwood Asylum.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water). } 3481

Total population at all ages.....4,694.
Number of inhabited houses 907
Average number of persons per house .....5·2
} At Census of 1901.

TABLE 2.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1903.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in Whole District.							No. of Cases removed to Hospital from the District. (All Ages.)
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwds.	
Small-pox...								
Cholera								
Diphtheria								
Membranous Croup ...								
Erysipelas...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet fever	7	—	—	5	1	1	—	5
Typhus fever								
Enteric fever								
Relapsing fever								
Continued fever								
Puerperal fever								
Totals	8	—	—	5	1	2	—	5

There were also notified 26 cases of Chicken Pox, which occurred among children under fifteen years of age.

Note.—The Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the district, is the Joint Isolation Hospital on Cuddington Downs, in the Epsom Rural District.

TABLE 3.

Shewing the number of Deaths from the Seven Principal Zymotic Diseases, and from Phthisis, and the number of Cases notified, in each of the eleven years, 1893—1903.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.		Enteric Fever.		Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa.	7 Zymotic Diseases.	Phthisis.
	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Cases.	Deaths.	Deaths.	Deaths.	Deaths.	Deaths.	Deaths.
1893	8		5	2	3		3	7		12	3
1894	1		3		3	1	1	2		4	3
1895	3		9	3						3	7
1896	19	1	12	1	3		2		2	6	3
1897	42	1	6	1	3	1			5	8	5
1898	4		2		2			1	5	6	6
1899	19		7	3	3		1	8	2	14	5
1900	60	1	5		5				2	3	11
1901	12	1	2	1	7	1			2	5	6
1902	3	1	3		2		1	8	1	11	5
1903	7						1	1	1	3	2

No case of Small Pox was notified during this period.

TABLE 4.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the Year 1903.

Causes of Death.	Deaths in or belonging to the District at subjoined Ages.							Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox								
Measles	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever								
Whooping-cough	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and membranous croup								
Croup								
Fever — Typhus								
Fever — Enteric								
Fever — Other continued ...								
Epidemic influenza	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera								
Plague								
Diarrhœa	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis								
Puerperal fever								
Erysipelas								
Other septic diseases ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Other tubercular disease ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease ...	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Bronchitis	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pleurisy								
Other diseases of Respiratory organs								
Alcoholism, Cirrhosis of liver ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Venereal diseases								
Premature birth	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases & accidents of parturition								
Heart diseases	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Accidents	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Suicides	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
All other causes	18	3	2	—	—	7	6	—
All Causes	40	6	7	—	2	13	12	—